Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 28, 2002

Dear ENERGY STAR Windows Stakeholder:

It has come to my attention that the Department's December 21, 2001, letter announcing a delay in the implementation of new criteria for the ENERGY STAR windows program and a review of the analysis and process for establishing that criteria has caused some confusion among the stakeholders. I would like to clarify the Department's position.

As you know, the Department of Energy adopted new criteria for the ENERGY STAR windows program on October 19, 2001. However, since then a number of partners and stakeholders have asked the Department to review the analysis, alternate criteria, and process for updating the ENERGY STAR criteria and to delay the implementation of the revised criteria until such a review has been completed. We conducted an initial review in early December 2001 and determined that the energy savings analysis conducted in support of the new criteria had a mathematical error. This led the Department to announce, on December 21, 2001, a three-month delay in implementing the new criteria in order to conduct a review of the analysis and process for establishing ENERGY STAR criteria.

Let me be clear. The Department of Energy is conducting a thorough and complete review of the pending ENERGY STAR criteria and the process by which the criteria is established. Once this review is complete, we will determine the appropriate final course of action. While this review may or may not change the final outcome, we feel it is necessary in order to ensure the integrity and credibility of the program. The program has achieved outstanding success in helping consumers make informed choices regarding energy efficient windows, and we appreciate your continued support of that goal.

If you have further questions, you may contact me at (202) 586-9240.

Sincerely,

Richard H. Karney, P.E., Acting Manager
ENERGY STAR Program
Office of Building Technology Assistance
Building Technology, State
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